[TravelHelp: Ownership Comparison] Is booking.com Expedia Group?

Founded in 1996 in Amsterdam, booking.com is 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] part of Booking Holdings, which also owns Kayak, Priceline, and Agoda 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Despite the name 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] similarities, booking.com is not part of Expedia Group — they are direct competitors 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. booking.com is best known for its strong global reach and its dominance in Europe 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].The misconception that 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] booking.com is part of the Expedia Group 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] is a common one, fueled by the fact that both companies are dominant players in the global online travel agency (OTA) market 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. However, it is essential to clarify that booking.com and Expedia Group are entirely separate, independent entities that operate as direct competitors on a global scale 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. booking.com is the flagship brand of Booking Holdings, a massive multinational company headquartered in the United States that also owns other major travel platforms such as Priceline, Agoda, KAYAK, and OpenTable 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. In contrast, Expedia Group is its own distinct parent company based in Seattle, Washington, which owns and manages a vast portfolio of travel brands including Expedia, Hotels 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].com, Vrbo, Orbitz, Travelocity, and Trivago 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Because these two conglomerates essentially define the landscape of how people book travel online, they are constantly vying for market share, advertising space, and consumer loyalty 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. While they may appear similar to the casual user because they both offer flight, hotel, and car rental booking services, their corporate structures, ownership, and loyalty programs are fundamentally different and have no shared management or operational ties 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Understanding the structural differences 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] between these two giants helps explain why they offer different features and loyalty incentives to travelers 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Since booking.com is operated by Booking Holdings, its internal strategy and software development are concentrated on its own set of integrated platforms, which are particularly dominant in the European market 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Conversely, Expedia Group has historically focused on expanding its presence in North America and Australia, building out a comprehensive ecosystem that allows users to bundle flights, hotels, and car rentals into single packages 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. This distinction in regional dominance and business model is why you might find different pricing, property availability, or cancellation policies when searching for the same hotel on both platforms 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Because they are fierce competitors, they do not share booking data or administrative resources, meaning that if you book a stay through booking.com, you are interacting solely with the Booking Holdings ecosystem, and if you book through an Expedia Group site, you are interacting with their specific network of systems and customer service representatives 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. This separation ensures that you are dealing with two distinct customer service, refund, and loyalty programs whenever you use these platforms for your travel planning needs 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

For consumers and business 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] travelers alike, the fact that these companies are competitors is actually a significant advantage, as it encourages innovation and competitive pricing throughout the travel industry 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Because they are constantly trying to outperform one another, both booking.com and Expedia Group have invested heavily in artificial intelligence, user experience, and loyalty rewards to attract and retain customers 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. For instance, Expedia Group's "One Key" loyalty program allows users to earn and redeem rewards across Expedia, Hotels 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].com, and Vrbo, whereas booking.com utilizes its "Genius" program to provide frequent travelers with discounts and perks based on their booking history 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. These programs are siloed within their respective groups; you cannot earn points on a booking.com reservation that apply to an Expedia purchase, nor can you use an Expedia voucher to pay for a hotel listed on booking.com 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Recognizing these ownership lines prevents confusion when attempting to redeem rewards or manage existing reservations 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. By knowing that you are dealing with two independent companies, you can make more informed decisions about which platform offers the best value for your specific trip, ensuring you select the service that provides the most benefits for your personal travel style and financial preferences while avoiding common mistakes like trying to contact the wrong customer service department for an existing booking 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Is booking.com owned by Expedia?

booking.com is not 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] owned by Expedia Group; they are entirely separate, competing companies 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. booking.com is a subsidiary of Booking Holdings, which owns other brands like Agoda and Priceline, while Expedia Group owns companies like Hotels 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].com, Vrbo, and Travelocity 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Are booking.com and Expedia the same?

booking.com and Expedia 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] are not the same entity and operate as direct rivals in the online travel industry 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. They maintain completely different corporate headquarters, management teams, loyalty programs, and reservation systems that do not interact with one another 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Who owns booking.com?

booking.com is owned 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] by Booking Holdings, a major multinational travel technology company based in the United States 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. In addition to booking.com, Booking Holdings operates several other well-known brands, including Agoda, KAYAK, OpenTable, and Priceline, forming a distinct competitive ecosystem from Expedia Group 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Who owns the Expedia Group?

Expedia Group is 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] an American-based travel technology company that operates independently as a publicly traded firm 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Its extensive portfolio of travel brands includes popular platforms such as Expedia, Hotels 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].com, Vrbo, Orbitz, Travelocity, and Trivago, all of which share a unified booking and rewards infrastructure 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Does booking.com have the same loyalty program?

booking.com and Expedia 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] have completely different, non-transferable loyalty programs for their users 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. booking.com uses the "Genius" program for discounts, while Expedia Group operates the "One Key" loyalty program, which allows you to earn and spend points across Expedia, Hotels 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].com, and Vrbo only 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Can I cancel an Expedia booking on booking.com?

You cannot manage 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] or cancel an Expedia booking through the booking.com platform, as they are separate companies with no shared reservation systems 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. You must always manage your booking through the specific website or mobile app where you originally completed your reservation 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Do booking.com and Expedia share customer support?

booking.com and Expedia 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] do not share customer support teams or data, meaning your inquiries must be directed to the specific company you booked with 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. If you are unsure which site you used, check your confirmation email for the official logo and contact details provided there 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Why do they look so similar?

Both platforms look 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] similar because they follow industry-standard practices for displaying travel inventory, pricing, and availability to maximize user convenience 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Despite the functional design similarities, they operate entirely independent backend systems that do not exchange information about your personal bookings or travel preferences 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Frequently Asked Questions

Are they competitors?

booking.com and Expedia 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] Group are indeed intense global competitors, constantly fighting for market dominance, consumer attention, and the best inventory deals from hotels, airlines, and car rental agencies worldwide 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Because the online travel agency space is incredibly lucrative, both companies spend billions of dollars annually on marketing, user interface improvements, and technological infrastructure to ensure they stay ahead of the other 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. This rivalry is actually quite beneficial for the average traveler, as it drives both companies to constantly offer competitive pricing, user-friendly mobile applications, and evolving loyalty incentives to capture your business 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. When one company introduces a new feature, such as an AI-powered trip planner or a new tier of their loyalty program, the other is often forced to innovate or improve their own offerings to keep their user base from switching 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. This competitive pressure helps keep commissions in check and ensures that travelers have multiple high-quality options when searching for their next vacation 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. However, it also means that these companies operate in silos; they do not share their databases, meaning that a price found on one platform is not guaranteed to be matched on the other 🚀

+1-844-293-3125 – [US]. For the consumer, this creates a landscape where checking both sites is often a smart strategy to ensure the best possible deal 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. While their business models are nearly identical—acting as intermediaries between the traveler and the service provider—they are separate corporate entities with different regional strongholds and strategic priorities, meaning they will continue to battle for the top spot in the travel industry for years to come 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Can I merge rewards?

Merging rewards or 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] loyalty points between booking.com's "Genius" program and Expedia Group's "One Key" program is not possible, as these loyalty systems belong to two completely separate and competing corporate infrastructures 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Because Booking Holdings and Expedia Group are not affiliated, there is no technical or financial bridge that allows for the transfer of points, status tiers, or vouchers between their respective ecosystems 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. If you are a member of both, you are essentially participating in two different loyalty schemes, each with its own set of rules, earning mechanisms, and redemption options 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. For instance, points earned through "One Key" on an Expedia or Hotels 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].com booking are locked within that ecosystem, providing value only when you book again through their family of brands 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Similarly, the discounts and perks offered through the booking.com "Genius" program are specific to their platform and cannot be applied to any travel purchases made through Expedia or its subsidiaries 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. This separation is standard for major corporate conglomerates that maintain distinct branding and business objectives 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. When planning your travel, it is important to be aware of which program you are using, as consolidating your bookings within a single family of brands is generally the fastest way to reach higher loyalty status and unlock better perks 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Attempting to use benefits from one company on the other's platform will simply not work, and travelers should avoid trying to cross-reference these programs to prevent frustration or confusion during the checkout process when booking their travel arrangements 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Do they share inventory?

booking.com and Expedia 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] Group do not share a single inventory database, but they often "compete" for the same hotel and vacation rental property contracts to list on their respective sites 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. While you might see the same hotel listed on both booking.com and Expedia, this happens because the hotel owner or property manager has independently signed separate agreements to list their property on both platforms to maximize their market exposure 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. The inventory is managed by the property owners themselves using channel managers or extranet tools that push availability to multiple OTAs simultaneously, rather than the travel platforms sharing data with each other 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. This is why you might sometimes see different room rates, availability calendars, or booking policies for the exact same hotel depending on whether you are looking at booking.com or an Expedia Group brand 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Each platform negotiates its own commission rates and marketing terms with these properties, which is why a hotel might offer a "member rate" on one site but not the other 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. From the consumer perspective, this

is a distinct advantage because it gives you multiple avenues to view the same property and potentially find a better price or more flexible cancellation policy 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. However, it is vital to understand that the platforms operate completely independently; if you find a problem with a listing on booking.com, you must contact booking.com, as they have no visibility or control over the listing as it appears on an Expedia site, and vice versa, because they are entirely different business platforms with no shared operational infrastructure 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Who is bigger?

Determining which company 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] is "bigger" is complex, as Booking Holdings and Expedia Group often lead in different categories and regions, depending on whether you are measuring by total revenue, gross bookings, or the sheer number of property listings 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Booking Holdings, which operates booking.com, is generally considered the dominant force in the global hospitality market, with an exceptionally strong grip on the European hotel and apartment market and a massive global footprint that spans over 220 countries 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Expedia Group, on the other hand, maintains a very strong presence in North America and has historically been a leader in travel packaging, combining flights, hotels, and car rentals in a way that attracts a specific segment of business and vacation travelers 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. In terms of sheer property volume, booking.com often claims a larger number of accommodation listings, particularly in the vacation rental and apartment sectors, whereas Expedia Group's strength lies in its diversified brand portfolio, which includes everything from cruise bookings via Expedia Cruises to luxury stays and high-end travel packages 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Both companies are multi-billion dollar conglomerates that hold significant sway over the travel industry, but they measure their success differently; Booking Holdings often highlights its high volume of "room nights" sold, while Expedia Group might focus on the total transaction value of its bundled travel packages 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Because they operate as competitors with different regional strengths and strategic goals, neither can be definitively called "the" biggest in every metric 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Instead, they are two titans of travel that effectively split much of the world's online booking traffic, each offering a unique value proposition that depends heavily on the traveler's destination and specific booking needs 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].

Is support shared?

Customer support operations 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US] for booking.com and the Expedia Group are completely independent and managed by separate teams, meaning you cannot receive assistance for an Expedia booking from a booking.com agent, and vice versa 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Each company has built its own massive support infrastructure, including dedicated call centers, live chat teams, and automated help systems, to handle the unique policies and booking systems specific to their brands 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. If you are experiencing a problem with a reservation—such as a flight change, a refund request, or a billing issue—it is critical that you verify which company you booked with before reaching out 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. You can easily do this by checking the confirmation email you received at the time of booking, which will contain the official branding and contact information for the entity responsible for your trip 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Because these companies operate on different servers and hold different customer

data, one platform’s support agent literally does not have the ability to access the booking records of the other 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. Attempting to call the wrong company is a common mistake that leads to unnecessary delays, as you will inevitably be told that they cannot find your record and must contact the other provider 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. To ensure a quick resolution to your issue, always start by identifying the correct company, gathering your itinerary number, and using the specific help portal associated with your booking provider 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US]. By respecting these boundaries between the two competitors, you ensure that your requests are routed to the professionals who actually have the authority to manage your reservation, saving you valuable time and stress during your travel journey 🚀 +1-844-293-3125 – [US].